

FOOD HOARDERS, WAR, WEATHER, STARVE WORLD

Gov't Control Only Solution for
Tragical Combine.

Head of U. S. Grocers Blames
Professional Speculators.

40 MILLION MEN IN WAR
Are Destroying Faster Than
World Can Produce.

Urges Everyone Write
Congressmen to Rush Lever Bill.

Chicago, June 21.—"Food hoarders" and "professional speculators" are mainly responsible for the present high cost of living.

Theodore Whitmarsh, president of the National Wholesale Grocers' association, in convention here, made this statement to the United States congressmen.

"The fundamental reason for abnormal prices is the war, which has caused an unprecedented economic revolution. That is, the world is destroying more than it can produce."

"Forty million men, according to accurate statistics, are engaged in the industry of destruction, instead of their natural field of endeavor—production—and the world supply of food products and commodities of every description is becoming more limited each day."

"The most expedient remedy, and perhaps the quickest, is the regulation of production, distribution and consumption by government control."

"The Lever food bill, which is now before congress, embodies all the necessary means for the government to control the supply of foodstuffs and to harmonize the demand of our allied nations."

"Natural causes of the food situation are the result of the war, and the weather of the past two growing seasons has been very unfavorable to crops and resulted in a world grain shortage."

"Labor being diverted also has helped to create crop conditions. But other reasons, not natural, helped to aggravate the situation, and it is in the hands of the government, and if action is not immediately taken by the government, will result in the next winter and spring, as well as precluding all possibilities of an early victory over Prussianism."

"Small Buyer Hoarding, Too."

"These unnatural causes are professional speculators and food hoarders. The majority of people, especially the middle classes have become alarmed and are hoarding food. The government has taken advantage of the peculiar situation and contributed his artificial demand to the frenzied demand of the small buyer."

"The Lever bill will stop professional speculation and food hoarding in order to adjust the market. Distribution is absolutely essential that the administration take action at once."

"The government is urged to pass the Lever bill, and urge everyone to write to their congressmen and advise him to vote in favor of it."

BOYS KILL JUNK MAN

Decoy Him to Barn, Beat Him With
Ball Bat and Rob Him of \$15.

Chicago, June 21.—Thirteen dollars and a baseball bat today had made murderers of three boys—only 13 years of age.

David Stry, junk dealer, just before he died in a hospital last night said he was assaulted Tuesday afternoon by three boys, who enticed him into a barn on the pretext they had something to see, then beat him with a baseball bat and robbed him of \$15.

Two of the boys were knickers. One, according to Stry, was about 12 years old and the other about a year older. The boys were dressed in civilian clothes.

David Erenstein, another junk dealer, told the police today he was attacked and robbed by the same gang a week ago.

The police are combing the Des Moines street district for the youthful bandits.

FLOUR DOWN \$2.40

Within a Week Wheat Also Drops
Nearly 50¢—Bread Unchanged.

Chicago, June 21.—Flour and wheat were lower today—but bread remained the same.

The decline of 40 to 50 cents a barrel in flour prices last yesterday to \$14 for spring patents and \$12.10 for bakers' brands, made a total drop of \$2.40 within a week.

In the same week, wheat had dropped nearly 50 cents a bushel to \$2.01 for July and \$1.80 for September deliveries.

John W. Eckhart, president of the milling company of that name, said present bread prices were fixed while flour was \$12 a barrel and called attention to the fact that no increase was made when flour went to \$17.

TODAY'S AMUSEMENTS

NOVELTY—William Farnum in "A Tale of Two Cities."
ORPHEUM—Enid Bennett in "The Girl, Girl."
IRVING—Pauline Frederick in "Her Better Self."
NEW GEM—Peggy Hyland in "The Enemy."
COZY—Mary Pickford in "The Dawn of a Tomorrow." Also a Fox comedy, "The Love Fight."
BEST—Charlie Chaplin in "The Floorwalker."
CRYSTAL—Motion Features.
CHESNEY PARK—Marshall's band musical free concert this evening, 8 o'clock.
For details, prices, etc., see advertisements on page 3 of the State Journal.

JEER EXILED KING

Constantine Alarmed at Hostility in
Switzerland and Decides to Move.

Lugano, Switzerland, June 21.—Former King Constantine of Greece and his family planned late today to depart from Lugano for Athens, where they were expected to be greeted by a cheering throng.

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NEW STRATEGIC RETREAT MADE BELGIAN FRONT

Germans Evacuate Corner of
River Lys Triangle.

Teutons' Retreat Impeded by
Canal-River Junction.

Days Torrid, Fight at Night

Canadians Take New Trenches
on Lens Skirts.

Dog Days' Story: Shell Crater
Uncovers Mammoth Skeleton.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS.

With the British Armies in the
Field, June 21.—Some time within the last twenty-four hours, the Germans have evacuated the corner of the River Lys triangle.

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RED CROSS NOTES

A Red Cross commission headed by
Major Grayson M. P. Murphy, member
of the Red Cross war council, is
now on the way to France. Composed
of trained business men and experts,
it will study ways in which the Red
Cross can best aid French and Belgian
individuals and towns, in re-
establishing themselves.

American troops, under General
Pershing, will soon be on the firing
line in France. They deserve Ameri-
can credit. The government will be
that nothing is lacking, in equipment
and material, to make them efficient
fighting men. The American Red
Cross must see that nothing is lacking
to keep them healthy, happy and effi-
cient soldiers. For this the Red
Cross must have:

(1) Hospital and medical
equipment to supplement that of the
army medical department
(2) Emergency equipment to care
for 1,000,000 men ought to be
provided at once. (3) Recreation and
rest facilities behind the firing line.
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